



What will be required of me?

Volunteers must complete a minimal amount of training that includes an orientation and a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) course. All training may be completed online via the TrainingFinder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network (TRAIN.) TRAIN is the nation's premier learning resource for professionals who protect the public's health and may be accessed at ky.train.org.

How do I sign up?

Volunteers can register with K HELPS online at <https://khelps.chfs.ky.gov>. You may also visit your local health department to fill out a hard copy application.

You will be asked to create your own user account. All information provided will be kept confidential. Volunteer information will only be available to the volunteer and the approving organization.

Personal information will only be utilized to credential applicants and to notify the applicant of volunteer opportunities.

Credentialing includes obtaining, verifying and assessing the qualifications of a health care professional to provide patient care, treatment and services in or for a health care organization. Most K HELPS volunteers will have a minimum of a criminal background check and license verification (if applicable).

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Public Health
Preparedness Branch
275 E. Main St. HS2E-A
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KHELPS
In times of need, Kentucky helps.

Kentucky
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K HELPS

Kentucky Health Emergency
Listing of Professionals for Surge



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In the event of a large-scale public health emergency, health and medical systems would be overwhelmed with individuals seeking treatment. The need to meet this demand would be critical.

In preparation to respond to this call, the Kentucky Department for Public Health has created K HELPS, the Kentucky Health Emergency Listing of Professionals for Surge program.

We hope you will take this opportunity to learn about the program and decide to join us in our quest to be prepared to serve Kentuckians and citizens across the United States who will desperately need our help if disaster strikes.

We want both our fellow Kentuckians and citizens throughout the U.S. to know — without a doubt — that in times of need, Kentucky helps.

What is K HELPS?

K HELPS is a state-based system to register medical professionals interested in volunteering to offer assistance during public health emergencies or disasters.

What is the Medical Reserve Corps?

MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers — medical professionals and others — who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

How is K HELPS different from the Medical Reserve Corps?

K HELPS is a state program designed to complement the existing local Medical Reserve Corps. Under the new system, K HELPS and local MRC units will work together closely. MRCs cover nearly all counties in Kentucky.

How will MRC and K HELPS work together?

Volunteers will register with K HELPS online and will automatically be assigned to the MRC unit associated with the volunteer's geographical area. The local MRC unit will

verify credentials of the volunteer (if applicable) and complete the approval process. The local MRC unit will then provide orientation, training and issue an identification badge for the volunteer.

Who can volunteer?

Anyone can volunteer. However, K HELPS is currently placing emphasis on the recruitment of:

- physicians
- nurses
- pharmacists
- social workers
- radiological technologists
- respiratory therapists
- clinical laboratory technologists

To meet behavioral health surge capacity needs, K HELPS is partnering with the Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board to allow psychologists, counselors, pastoral care, therapists and others to become involved.

How would I know if I was needed during a disaster?

The K HELPS system has the ability to contact volunteers by e-mail, telephone or both. Local MRC units will also have administrative rights to alert and activate volunteers when needed.